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VITAL STATISTICS OF QUEENSLAND - YEAR, 1945.

Queensland vital statistics for 1945, which have just become available, show the following outstanding features:-

(i) The highest crude birth rate for over twenty years. The rate was 24.8 per 1,000 population, compared with 23.0 in 1944.

(ii) The lowest rate of infantile mortality ever recorded. The rate of 29.8 infant deaths per 1,000 births was approximately only one-half its level at the end of the 1914-1918 war (63.4 in 1920).

(iii) A lower marriage rate (9.2 per 1,000 population) than in 1944. The number of marriages, 9,905, was 1,420 less than in 1944, but the numbers are still higher than can be expected to be maintained now that the war time stimulus to marriage has ceased, leaving a relative shortage of single girls of marriageable age.

BIRTHS:

During the year 1945, 26,713 births were registered in Queensland, an increase of 2,193 on 1944, and the greatest number of births ever recorded in the State. The crude birth rate, 24.8, was the highest reached since 1923, when the rate was 25.1, after which it fell to its lowest level (18.1) in 1933. Since then it has steadily risen, the greatest increase being between 1944 and 1945. The birth rate will probably not be as high in 1946, as the number of marriages in 1945 was much lower than in 1944, and during the last few years a high proportion of the increased numbers of births have been first births following increased numbers of war-time marriages, etc.

In 1945, there were 13,719 males and 12,994 females born, equivalent to 105.6 males per 100 females. Usually male births are about 5 per cent. more than female births, but the infantile mortality rate for males is higher than for females, thus tending to equalise the proportion of each sex in the population.

The natural increase (excess of births over deaths) of 17,254 for 1945 was equal to an increase of 1.6 per cent. of the population.

MARRIAGES:

Marriages during 1945 numbered 9,905, and although the number was still high it did not reach the high figures recorded in 1942 and 1944, 11,722 and 11,325. The marriage rate was 9.2 per 1,000 of mean population and was the lowest since 1939, being only 0.2 above the rate for that year.

Of bridegrooms married in 1945, 591 were minors, while 2,737 of the brides were minors. During the war years, the proportion of minors married increased slightly for both sexes, and, in 1945, the proportion of bridegrooms who were minors was 6.0 per cent. compared with 4.3 per cent. in 1939, while brides who were minors were 27.6 per cent. compared with 24.3 per cent.

DEATHS:

Deaths of civilians during 1945 numbered 9,459, a slight increase on 1944, but the death rate at 8.8 remained the same. (Deaths of all Servicemen and Servicewomen are excluded from vital statistics, and although some deaths of members of the Forces would have occurred had they remained civilians and made some small differences in death rates, the rates as shown are better for comparative purposes than if Service deaths were included). The greatest number of deaths were caused by diseases of the heart, but the total number was lower than in the previous year. Main increases during the year were due to the following causes - tuberculosis, cancer, diseases of the nervous system, diseases of the genito-urinary system, and pre-natal causes and diseases of early infancy. Decreases occurred in deaths from infectious and parasitic diseases, meningitis, bronchitis and pneumonias, and nephritis.

INFANTILE MORTALITY:

The infantile mortality rate of 29.8 per 1000 births recorded for 1945 was the lowest rate ever recorded for Queensland. The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age during 1945 was 795, or 27 more than in 1944. Although the number of deaths was higher, the greater number of births registered in 1945 accounted for the rate being lower than in the previous year.

Pre-natal causes were responsible for 628, or 79.0 per cent. of all infantile deaths under one year of age, and, of these, 297, or 47.3 per cent., were due to premature birth. Injury at birth and congenital malformations were the most important of other pre-natal causes. Broncho-pneumonia and diarrhoea and enteritis predominate in infantile deaths due to other than pre-natal causes, but, in 1945, the deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis were only about 50 per cent. of their number in 1944.

COLIN CLARK,

GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN.

BRISBANE,

20th August, 1946.

TABLE NO. 1 - BIRTHS.

Usual Place of Residence	Fourth Quarter		Year			
	1944	1945	1944	1945		
				Males	Females	Persons
METROPOLITAN						
City	220	223	933	499	461	960
Western Suburbs ..	332	299	1,180	712	628	1,340
Northern Suburbs ..	347	347	1,441	841	799	1,640
Toombul - Sandgate ..	340	363	1,379	803	828	1,631
Total North of River ..	1,239	1,232	4,933	2,855	2,716	5,571
South Brisbane ..	339	358	1,380	820	778	1,598
South Side Suburbs ..	563	543	2,232	1,257	1,163	2,420
Total South of River ..	902	901	3,612	2,077	1,941	4,018
Total Metropolitan ..	2,141	2,133	8,545	4,932	4,657	9,589
NON-METROPOLITAN						
Sub-Tropical						
Bundaberg ..	101	93	414	244	188	432
Gympie	51	47	181	103	98	201
Ipswich ..	143	150	582	338	299	637
Maryborough ..	78	65	319	166	142	308
Toowoomba ..	181	213	766	432	444	876
Warwick ..	65	43	226	102	122	224
Total Sub-Tropical Cities	619	611	2,488	1,385	1,293	2,678
Total Sub-Tropical Towns	226	233	845	496	498	994
Total Sub-Tropical Shires	1,746	1,687	6,990	3,814	3,630	7,444
Total Sub-Tropical ..	2,591	2,531	10,323	5,695	5,421	11,116
Tropical						
Cairns	88	109	379	247	239	486
Charters Towers ..	27	32	165	97	76	173
Mackay	58	61	267	125	132	257
Rockhampton ..	204	155	739	367	352	719
Townsville ..	152	156	740	395	374	769
Total Tropical Cities	529	513	2,290	1,231	1,173	2,404
Total Tropical Towns ..	42	46	157	84	83	167
Total Tropical Shires	736	737	3,205	1,777	1,660	3,437
Total Tropical ..	1,307	1,296	5,652	3,092	2,916	6,008
Total occurring in Q'ld.	6,039	5,960	24,520	13,719	12,994	26,713
	Birth Rates per 1,000 Population					
Metropolitan						
North of River ..	23.0	22.1	22.3	25.1		
South of River ..	23.2	22.4	22.6	24.1		
Total	23.1	22.2	22.5	24.6		
Non-Metropolitan						
Sub-Tropical - Cities	25.1	24.0	25.3	26.2		
Towns	27.1	26.7	25.4	28.4		
Shires	22.9	26.4	23.0	29.1		
Total	23.7	25.8	23.7	28.3		
Tropical - Cities	21.4	19.4	23.3	22.7		
Towns and Shires	20.5	16.5	22.3	19.0		
Total	20.9	17.6	22.7	20.3		
Total Queensland ..	22.8	22.2	23.0	24.8		

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TABLE NO. 2 - MARRIAGES.

Place of Celebration	Marriages				Minors Married	
	Fourth Quarter		Year		Fourth Quarter	
	1944	1945	1944	1945	Males	Females
METROPOLITAN	1,539	1,327	5,828	4,962	68	282
NON-METROPOLITAN						
Sub-Tropical						
Bundaberg	51	40	203	191	2	10
Gympie	21	18	133	143	1	10
Ipswich	82	99	328	341	4	24
Maryborough ..	43	72	172	208	6	23
Toowoomba	122	140	548	471	8	50
Warwick	32	20	134	114	-	2
Total Sub-Tropical Cities	351	389	1,518	1,468	21	119
Sub-Tropical Other ..	379	391	1,660	1,535	36	149
Total Sub-Tropical ..	730	780	3,178	3,003	57	268
Tropical						
Cairns	65	45	238	204	3	15
Charters Towers ..	15	20	68	63	3	9
Mackay	50	37	225	193	3	15
Rockhampton	110	91	446	365	9	22
Townsville	149	103	536	422	9	22
Total Tropical Cities ..	389	296	1,513	1,247	27	83
Tropical Other ..	223	157	806	693	9	60
Total Tropical ..	612	453	2,319	1,940	36	143
Total Queensland ..	2,881	2,560	11,325	9,905	161	693
	Marriage Rates Per 1,000 Population.					
Metropolitan	16.6	13.8	15.3	12.7		
Non-Metropolitan						
Sub-Tropical - Cities ..	14.2	15.3	15.4	14.4		
Total ..	6.7	8.0	7.3	7.6		
Tropical - Cities ..	15.8	11.2	15.4	11.8		
Total ..	9.8	6.1	9.3	6.6		
Total Queensland ..	10.9	9.6	10.6	9.2		

TABLE NO. 3 - DEATHS.

Usual Place of Residence	All Deaths				Deaths Under 1 Year			
	4th Quarter		Year		4th Quarter		Year	
	1944	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945
METROPOLITAN								
City	169	174	699	702	8	6	45	34
Western Suburbs ..	155	141	626	640	11	11	42	40
Northern Suburbs ..	102	127	481	487	9	13	41	46
Toombul - Sandgate ..	123	128	476	466	10	4	38	26
Total North of River ..	549	570	2,282	2,295	38	34	166	146
South Brisbane ..	165	171	676	720	10	9	38	50
South Side Suburbs ..	195	206	813	881	11	17	54	74
Total South of River ..	360	377	1,489	1,601	21	26	92	124
Total Metropolitan ..	909	947	3,771	3,896	59	60	258	270
NON-METROPOLITAN								
Sub-Tropical								
Bundaberg ..	44	30	177	132	6	2	17	13
Gympie	25	20	96	78	1	1	7	3
Ipswich	51	76	278	267	6	5	22	22
Maryborough ..	40	16	153	137	-	1	9	5
Toowoomba ..	89	92	402	348	8	5	35	26
Warwick	15	12	89	64	2	1	13	3
Total Sub-Tropical Cities	264	246	1,195	1,026	23	15	103	72
Total Sub-Tropical Towns ..	83	95	330	334	17	15	41	30
Total Sub-Tropical Shires	470	517	1,950	2,009	38	65	188	212
Total Sub-Tropical ..	817	858	3,475	3,369	78	95	332	314
Tropical								
Cairns	31	33	135	154	2	3	11	11
Charters Towers ..	22	43	162	181	-	3	3	9
Mackay	28	37	116	124	4	2	11	6
Rockhampton ..	73	97	283	352	3	3	18	26
Townsville ..	68	62	308	262	5	4	23	30
Total Tropical Cities ..	222	272	1,004	1,073	14	15	66	82
Total Tropical Towns ..	23	20	100	79	-	2	10	9
Total Tropical Shires ..	240	266	1,035	1,042	20	25	102	120
Total Tropical ..	485	558	2,139	2,194	34	42	178	211
Total occurring in Queensland	2,211	2,363	9,385	9,459	171	197	768	795
	Death Rates (a)				Infantile Mortality Rates (b)			
Metropolitan								
North of River ..	10.2	10.2	10.3	10.3	30.7	27.6	33.7	26.3
South of River ..	9.3	9.4	9.3	9.6	23.3	28.9	25.5	30.9
Total	9.8	9.9	9.9	10.0	27.6	28.1	30.2	28.2
Non-Metropolitan								
Sub-Tropical - Cities ..	10.7	9.7	12.1	10.0	37.2	24.5	41.4	26.9
Towns ..	10.0	10.9	9.9	9.5	75.2	64.4	48.5	30.2
Shires ..	6.2	8.1	6.4	7.8	21.8	38.5	26.9	28.5
Total ..	7.5	8.7	8.0	8.6	30.1	37.5	32.2	28.2
Tropical - Cities ..	9.0	10.3	10.2	10.1	26.5	29.2	28.8	34.1
Towns and Shires ..	6.9	6.0	7.5	5.9	25.7	34.5	33.3	35.8
Total ..	7.8	7.6	8.6	7.4	26.0	32.4	31.5	35.1
Total Queensland ..	8.4	8.8	8.8	8.8	28.3	33.1	31.3	29.8

(a) Per 1,000 Population;
(b) Per 1,000 Live Births.

TABLE NO. 4 - CAUSES OF DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OF QUEENSLAND.

Diseases - Abridged International List	Fourth Qtr. 1944	Fourth Qtr. 1945	Increase or Decrease	Year 1944	Year 1945	Increase or Decrease
Whooping Cough	6	2	- 4	12	15	+ 3
Diphtheria	1	5	+ 4	26	17	- 9
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	79	85	+ 6	284	314	+ 30
Tuberculosis, Other ..	2	4	+ 2	11	20	+ 9
Syphilis	11	7	- 4	62	36	- 26
Influenza	6	6	.	35	33	- 2
Measles	.	.	.	2	2	.
Other Infectious and Parasitic Diseases	29	28	- 1	130	97	- 33
Cancer and Other Malignant Tumours	286	296	+ 10	1,094	1,125	+ 31
Tumours, Non-malignant or unspecified	20	17	- 3	65	72	+ 7
Chronic Rheumatism and Gout	1	5	+ 4	15	22	+ 7
Diabetes Mellitus ..	46	25	- 21	165	148	- 17
Alcoholism (Acute or Chronic)	4	3	- 1	20	13	- 7
Vitamin Deficiency Diseases, Other General and Blood Diseases, Chronic Poisonings	38	48	+ 10	158	161	+ 3
Meningitis (simple) and Diseases of Spinal Cord ..	13	8	- 5	65	32	- 33
Intra-cranial Lesions of Vascular Origin	193	190	- 3	736	814	+ 78
Other Diseases of the Nervous System	28	32	+ 4	119	150	+ 31
Diseases of the Heart ..	627	677	+ 50	2,662	2,632	- 30
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	38	49	+ 11	184	210	+ 26
Bronchitis	23	27	+ 4	103	81	- 22
Pneumonia, Broncho-pneumonia	90	82	- 8	419	392	- 27
Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	28	31	+ 3	159	140	- 19
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ..	23	17	- 6	110	84	- 26
Appendicitis	13	13	.	46	61	+ 15
Diseases of the Liver and Biliary Passages	19	23	+ 4	90	100	+ 10
Other Diseases of the Digestive System	49	68	+ 19	223	239	+ 16
Nephritis	120	133	+ 13	543	505	- 38
Other Diseases of the Genito-urinary System ..	33	50	+ 17	158	218	+ 60
Puerperal Infection ..	4	6	+ 2	17	16	- 1
Other Diseases of Pregnancy and Childbirth	11	12	+ 1	57	50	- 7
Diseases of Skin and Bone and Organs of Movement ..	9	4	- 5	45	25	- 20
Pre-natal and early Infancy Causes	133	158	+ 25	574	647	+ 73
Senility	63	68	+ 5	343	350	+ 7
Suicide	16	28	+ 12	72	85	+ 13
Homicide	1	4	+ 3	17	11	- 6
Automobile Accidents ..	30	28	- 2	126	116	- 10
Other Violent or Accidental Deaths	115	116	+ 1	411	396	- 15
Unspecified or Ill-defined ..	3	8	+ 5	27	30	+ 3
TOTAL ALL CAUSES ..	2,211	2,363	+ 152	9,385	9,459	+ 74

TABLE NO. 5 - CAUSES OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.

Diseases	Fourth Qtr. 1944	Fourth Qtr. 1945	Increase or Decrease	Year 1944	Year 1945	Increase or Decrease
Congenital Malformations ..	21	23	+ 2	104	110	+ 6
Congenital Debility ..	3	3	.	21	12	- 9
Premature Birth	63	84	+ 21	263	297	+ 34
Injury at Birth	32	34	+ 2	108	121	+ 13
Atelectasis	5	9	+ 4	36	53	+ 17
Haemorrhagic Condition of New Born - 1 mth.	.	1	+ 1	4	13	+ 9
Icterus Neonatorum ..	2	2	.	14	14	.
Other Diseases of Early Infancy	.	.	.	9	8	- 1
TOTAL PRE-NATAL CAUSES:	126	156	+ 30	559	628	+ 69
Whooping Cough	4	2	- 2	7	12	+ 5
Diphtheria	.	.	.	3	.	- 3
Convulsions	.	.	.	1	6	+ 5
Broncho-Pneumonia ..	12	13	+ 1	51	48	- 3
Lobar Pneumonia	1	1	.	10	5	- 5
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ..	12	6	- 6	45	24	- 21
All Other Causes ..	16	19	+ 3	92	72	- 20
TOTAL DEATHS UNDER 12 MONTHS OF AGE ..	171	197	+ 26	768	795	+ 27
DEATHS UNDER 1 MONTH OF AGE:	119	157	+ 38	533	641	+108

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